IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 39 have been amended.

1. (currently amended) A method for retrieving a retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~, comprising:

~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of retrieval objects are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~;

~~and storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of retrieval objects; ~~and~~

~~including a first position deriving step of~~ deriving a position of the expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said retrieval object or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said retrieving object ~~in~~ on said virtual space,

~~a retrieving object map generation step of~~ generating a retrieval object map arranging said respective retrieval objects on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving step~~ of the corresponding expression word,

~~a second position deriving step of~~ deriving a position of said retrieving word on said virtual space with reference to said expression word map, and

~~retrieval object retrieving step of~~ retrieving the retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects on the basis of the position ~~derived at said second~~

~~position deriving step~~ of said retrieving word with reference to said retrieval object map.

2. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~retrieval object retrieving step~~ retrieving the retrieval object of the impression meeting with the impression of said retrieving word retrieves the retrieval object at a position having a ~~smaller~~ smallest distance to ~~a position derived at said second position deriving step in said virtual space with reference to said retrieval object map in ascending order~~ the position of the retrieving word.

3. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~retrieval object retrieving step~~ retrieving the retrieval object of the impression meeting with the impression of said retrieving word retrieves the retrieval object at a position having ~~smaller~~ an angle, ~~defined by~~ a straight line connecting a position in said virtual space derived by ~~said second position deriving step~~ said deriving the position of said retrieving word and an origin of said virtual space, smaller than an angle defined by ~~and~~ a straight line connecting a position of said retrieving object in said virtual space and the origin of said virtual space, with reference to said retrieval object map in ascending order.

4. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claims 1 or 2, wherein said retrieval object is data including said expressing word, and said method ~~comprises expression word extracting step of~~ includes extracting said expression word from said retrieval object and ~~expression word correspondence step of~~ storing said retrieval object with correspondence with the expression word extracted in said expression word extracting step.

5. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in ~~any one of claims~~

~~1 to 4~~ claims 1 or 2, wherein said retrieval objects are stored with attribute information indicative of attributes of said retrieval object,

said method ~~comprises second retrieval object retrieving step of~~ includes retrieving retrieval object corresponding to attribute information matching with a given attribute information among said plurality of retrieval objects on the basis of the given attribute information, and

~~said retrieval object retrieving step retrieves~~ retrieving the retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among retrieval objects retrieved ~~at said second retrieval object retrieving step~~ corresponding to attribute information with a given attribute information.

6. (currently amended) A system for ~~retrieving~~ a retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~, comprising:

expression word map storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of retrieval objects are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~,

retrieval object storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of retrieving objects,

first position deriving means for deriving a position of the expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said retrieval object or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said retrieving object ~~in~~ on said virtual space,

a retrieving object map generation means for generating a retrieval object map arranging said respective retrieval objects on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving means~~ of the corresponding expression word,

a second position deriving means for deriving a position of said retrieving word on said virtual space with reference to said expression word map, and

a retrieval object retrieving means for retrieving the retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects on the basis of the position ~~derived at said second position deriving means~~ of said retrieving word with reference to said retrieval object map.

7. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth in claim 6, wherein said retrieval object retrieving means retrieves the retrieval object at a position having a ~~smaller~~ smallest distance to ~~a position derived at said second position deriving means in said virtual space with reference to said retrieval object map in ascending order to~~ the position of the retrieving word.

8. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth in claim 6, wherein said retrieval object retrieving means retrieves the retrieval object at a position having ~~smaller~~ an angle defined by a straight line connecting a position in said virtual space derived by said second position deriving means and an origin of said virtual space, smaller than an angled defined by ~~and~~ a straight line connecting a position of said retrieving object in said virtual space and the origin of said virtual space, with reference to said retrieval object map.

9. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth in ~~any one of claims 6 to 8~~ claims 6 or 7, wherein said retrieval object is data including said ~~expressing~~ expression word, and

said system comprises expression word extracting means for extracting said expression word from said retrieval object and expression word correspondence means for storing said retrieval object ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to the expression word extracted ~~in~~ by said expression word extracting means.

10. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth in ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~ claims 6 or 7, wherein said retrieval objects are stored with attribute information indicative of attributes of said retrieval object,

said system comprises second retrieval object retrieving means for retrieving retrieval object corresponding to attribute information matching with a given attribute information among said plurality of retrieval objects on the basis of the given attribute information, and

said retrieval object retrieving means retrieves the retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ impression of said retrieving word among retrieval objects retrieved by said retrieval object retrieving means.

11. (currently amended) ~~A retrieving program for retrieving retrieval object of sensuous image impression meeting with sensuous image impression of retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects on the basis of a given retrieving word~~,

A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon a computer-readable retrieving program, for use with a computer, the

~~for a~~ computer ~~comprising expression word map storage means for storing~~ pre-

storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of retrieval objects on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions are arranged, ~~retrieval object storage means for storing~~ and pre-storing said plurality of retrieving objects, the retrieving program when executed causes the computer to:

~~said program making to execute a process realized by first position deriving means for deriving~~ derive a position of the expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said retrieval object or the position of the expression word contained in each of said retrieving object ~~in~~ on said virtual space,

~~a retrieving object map generation means for generating~~ generate a retrieval object map arranging said respective retrieval objects on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving means~~ of the expression word corresponding to said retrieval object,

~~a second position deriving means for deriving~~ derive a position of said retrieving word on said virtual space with reference to said expression word map, and

~~and retrieval object retrieving means for retrieving~~ retrieve the retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects on the basis of the position ~~derived at said second position deriving means~~ of said retrieving word with reference to said retrieval object map.

12. (currently amended) A method for generating a retrieval object map to be used for a method of retrieving a retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of

retrieval objects ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~ using said retrieval object map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of retrieval objects are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, comprising:

~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of retrieval objects are arranged on a virtual space depending upon the degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, and ~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of retrieval objects ~~with correspondence~~ corresponding to said expression words; ~~and~~

~~including a first position deriving step of~~ deriving a position of the expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said retrieval object or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said retrieving object ~~in~~ on said virtual space, and

~~a retrieving object map generation step of~~ generating a retrieval object map arranging said respective retrieval objects on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving step~~ of the expression word.

13. (currently amended) A retrieval object map generating method as set forth in claim 12, wherein said retrieval object is stored ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to a retrieval object describing document as descriptive text for said retrieval object ~~and describing~~ which describes the ~~sensuous image~~ impression of said retrieval object and corresponding to a supplementary document including said expression word supplementing said retrieval object descriptive document,

said method ~~comprises~~ including, ~~expression word extracting step of~~ extracting said expression word from said retrieval object descriptive document and said

supplementary document corresponding to said retrieval object with reference to said expression word map, and

~~said first position deriving step derives the~~ deriving a position of the expression word extracted ~~at said expression word extracting step~~ from said retrieval object descriptive document and said supplementary document corresponding to said retrieval object with reference to said expression word map.

14. (currently amended) A retrieval object map generating method as set forth in claim 13, wherein each of said retrieval objects is stored ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to an attribute information indicative of said retrieval object in addition to said retrieval object descriptive object and said supplementary document.

15. (currently amended) A system for generating a retrieval object map to be used for a system of retrieving a retrieval object of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of retrieval objects ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~ using said retrieval object map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of the retrieval objects are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, comprising:

expression word storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of the retrieval objects are arranged on a virtual space depending upon the degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~,

retrieval object storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of retrieval objects ~~with correspondence~~ corresponding to said expression words,

a first position deriving means for deriving a position of the expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said retrieval object or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said retrieving object ~~in~~ on said virtual space, and

a retrieving object map generation means for generating a retrieval object map arranging said respective retrieval objects on said virtual space on the basis of the position derived at said first position deriving ~~step~~ means.

16. (currently amended) A retrieval object map generating system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said retrieval object storage means stores each of said retrieval objects ~~with correspondence~~ corresponding with a retrieval object describing document as descriptive text for said retrieval object ~~and describing~~ which describes the ~~sensuous image~~ impression of said retrieval object and a supplementary document including said expression word supplementing said retrieval object descriptive document,

~~said system comprises~~ an expression word extracting means ~~for extracting~~ extracts said expression word from said retrieval object descriptive document and said supplementary document corresponding to said retrieval object with reference to said expression word map, and

said first position deriving means derives the position of the expression word extracted at said expression word extracting ~~step~~ means with reference to said expression word map.

17. (currently amended) A retrieval object map generating system as set forth in claim 16, wherein each of said retrieval objects is stored ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to an attribute information indicative of said retrieval object in addition to

said retrieval object descriptive object and said supplementary document.

18. (currently amended) A method for retrieving a graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~, comprising:

~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of graphic images are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, ~~and~~

~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of graphic images; ~~and~~

~~including a first position deriving step of~~ deriving a position of the expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said graphic image or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said graphic image ~~in~~ on said virtual space,

~~a graphic image map generation step of~~ generating a graphic image map arranging said respective graphic images on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving step~~ of the expression word,

~~a second position deriving step of~~ deriving a position of said retrieving word on said virtual space with reference to said expression word map, and

~~graphic image retrieving step of~~ retrieving the graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images on the basis of the position ~~derived at said second position deriving step~~ of said retrieving word with reference to said graphic image map.

19. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in claim 18, wherein ~~said graphic image retrieving step retrieves~~ retrieving the graphic image of the

impression meeting with the impression of said retrieving word retrieves the graphic image at a position having a ~~smaller~~ smallest distance to ~~a position derived at said second position deriving step in said virtual space with reference to said graphic image map in ascending order~~ the position of the retrieving word.

20. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in claim 18, wherein said ~~graphic image retrieving step~~ retrieving the graphic image of the impression meeting with the impression of said retrieving word retrieves the graphic image at a position having ~~smaller~~ an angle defined by a straight line connecting a position in said virtual space derived by ~~said second position deriving step~~ deriving the position of said retrieved word and an origin of said virtual space, smaller than an angle defined by ~~and~~ a straight line connecting a position of said graphic image in said virtual space and the origin of said virtual space, with reference to said graphic image map in ascending order.

21. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in ~~any one of claims 18 to 20~~ claims 18 or 19, wherein each of said graphic images is stored ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to an attribute information indicative of attributes of said graphic image,

said method ~~comprises second graphic image retrieving step of~~ includes retrieving a graphic image corresponding to the attribute information matching with a given attribute information among said plurality of graphic images on the basis of the given attribute information, and

~~said graphic image retrieving step retrieves~~ retrieving the graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said

retrieving word among the graphic images ~~retrieved at said second graphic image retrieving step~~ matching with the given attribute information.

22. (currently amended) A system for retrieving a graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~, comprising:

expression word map storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of graphic images are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~,

graphic image storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of graphic images,

first position deriving means for deriving a position of the expression word corresponded to said graphic image or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said graphic image ~~in~~ on said virtual space,

a graphic image map generation means for generating a graphic image map arranging said respective graphic images on said virtual space on the basis of the position derived at said first position deriving means,

a second position deriving means for deriving a position of said retrieving word on said virtual space with reference to said expression word map, and

graphic image retrieving means for retrieving the graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images on the basis of the position derived at said second position deriving means with reference to said graphic image map.

23. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth in claim 22, wherein

said graphic image retrieving means retrieves the graphic image at ~~a~~ position having a ~~smaller~~ smallest distance to ~~a~~ the position derived at said second position deriving means ~~in~~ on said virtual space with reference to said graphic image map in ascending order.

24. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth in claim 22, wherein said graphic image retrieving means retrieves the graphic image at a position having ~~smaller~~ an angle, defined by a straight line connecting a position in said virtual space derived by said second position deriving means and an origin of said virtual space, smaller than an angle defined by ~~and~~ a straight line connecting a position of said graphic image in said virtual space and the origin of said virtual space, with reference to said graphic image map.

25. (currently amended) A retrieving system as set forth ~~in any one of claims 22 to 24~~ in claims 22 or 23, wherein said graphic images are stored with attribute information indicative of attributes of said graphic image,

~~said system comprises~~ a second graphic image retrieving means ~~for retrieving~~ retrieves graphic image corresponding to the attribute information matching with a given attribute information among said plurality of graphic images on the basis of the given attribute information, and

said graphic image retrieving means retrieves the graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among the graphic images retrieved at said second graphic image retrieving means.

26. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in ~~any one of claims~~

~~22 to 25~~ claims 22 or 23, which is applied for retrieval of hair style graphic images expressing hair styles.

27. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in claim 26, wherein said virtual space is a ~~space of~~ coordinate system having a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to said first axis,

said first axis is assigned for amount of sense of dynamic as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of smart as quantified on the other direction, and

the second axis is assigned for amount of sense of masculine ~~e~~ as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of femininity as quantified on the other direction

28. (currently amended) A retrieving method as set forth in claim 26, wherein said virtual space is a ~~space of~~ coordinate system having a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to said first axis,

said first axis is assigned for amount of sense of dynamic as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of smart as quantified on the other direction, and

the second axis is assigned for amount of sense of heavy ~~e~~ as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of light as quantified on the other direction.

29. (currently amended) ~~A graphic image retrieving program for retrieving graphic image of sensuous image meeting with sensuous image of retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images on the basis of a given retrieving word, comprising:~~

A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon a computer-readable graphic image retrieval program, for use with a computer, the

~~for a~~ computer ~~comprising expression word map storage means for storing~~ pre-

storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of graphic images on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions are arranged,

~~graphic image storage means for storing~~ and pre-storing said plurality of graphic images,

the graphic image retrieval program, which when executed causes the computer to:

~~said program making to execute a process realized by first position deriving means for deriving~~ derive a position of an expression word ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to said graphic image or the position of the expression word contained in each of said graphic images ~~in~~ on said virtual space,

~~a graphic image map generation means for generating~~ generate a graphic image map arranging said respective graphic images on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving means~~ of the expression word,

~~a second position deriving means for deriving~~ derive a position of said retrieving word on said virtual space with reference to said expression word map, and

~~and graphic image retrieving means for retrieving~~ retrieve the graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ the impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images on the basis of the position ~~derived at said second position deriving means~~ of said retrieving word with reference to said graphic image map.

30. (currently amended) A ~~graphic image retrieving data used by a~~ computer retrieving hair style graphic images of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with

~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of hair style graphic images ~~expressing hair styles on the basis of given retrieving word~~,

a graphic image map storage device for ~~storing~~ pre-storing expression word map, ~~in which~~ the graphic image map including a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of the hair style graphic images on a virtual space, where the virtual space is a ~~space of~~ coordinate system having a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to said first axis, depending upon a degree of association of the ~~sensuous images~~ impressions,

said first axis is assigned for amount of sense of dynamic as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of smart as quantified on the other direction, and

the second axis is assigned for amount of sense of masculine ~~e~~ as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of femininity as quantified on the other direction.

31. (currently amended) ~~A graphic image retrieving data used by a~~ computer retrieving hair style graphic images of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word from among a plurality of hair style graphic images ~~expressing hair styles on the basis of given retrieving word~~ comprising,

a graphic image map storage device for ~~a storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, ~~in which~~ the expression word map including a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of the hair style graphic images on a virtual space, where the virtual space is a ~~space of~~ coordinate system having a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to said first axis, depending upon a degree of association of the ~~sensuous images~~ impressions,

said first axis is assigned for amount of sense of dynamic as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of smart as quantified on the other direction, and

the second axis is assigned for amount of sense of heavy ~~e~~ as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of light as quantified on the other direction.

32. (currently amended) ~~A graphic image retrieving data used by a~~ A computer retrieving hair style graphic images of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word from among a plurality of hair style graphic images, comprising ~~expressing hair styles on the basis of given retrieving word~~,

a graphic image map storage device for ~~storing~~ pre-storing a graphic image map, ~~in which~~ the graphic image map including a plurality of the hair style graphic images on a virtual space, where the virtual space is a ~~space of~~ coordinate system having a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to said first axis, depending upon a degree of association of the ~~sensuous images~~ impressions,

said first axis is assigned for amount of sense of dynamic as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of smart as quantified on the other direction and

the second axis is assigned for amount of sense of masculine ~~e~~ as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of femininity as quantified on the other direction.

33. (currently amended) A ~~graphic image retrieving data used by a~~ computer retrieving hair style graphic images of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of hair style graphic images ~~expressing hair styles on the basis of given retrieving word~~ comprising,

a graphic image map storage device for ~~a storing~~ pre-storing a graphic image

map, ~~in which~~ the graphic image map including ~~a~~ said plurality of hair style graphic images on a virtual space, where the virtual space is a ~~space of~~ coordinate system having a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to said first axis, depending upon degree of association of the ~~sensuous images~~ impressions,

said first axis is assigned for amount of sense of dynamic as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of smart as quantified on the other direction, and

the second axis is assigned for amount of sense of heavy e as quantified on one axial direction and amount of sense of light as quantified on the other direction.

34. (currently amended) A method for generating a graphic image map to be used for a method of retrieving a graphic image of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images to be retrieval objects ~~on the basis of a given retrieving word~~ using said graphic image map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of graphic images are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, comprising:

~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of the graphic images are arranged on ~~a~~ the virtual space depending upon the degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, ~~and~~

~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of graphic images with correspondence to said expression words; ~~and~~

~~including a first position deriving step of~~ deriving a position of the expression

word corresponded to said graphic image or the position of the expression word contained in ~~each of~~ said graphic image ~~in~~ on said virtual space, and

~~a graphic image map generation step of~~ generating a graphic image map arranging said respective graphic images on said virtual space on the basis of the position ~~derived at said first position deriving step~~ of the expression word.

35. (currently amended) A graphic image map generating method as set forth in claim 34, ~~wherein said~~ further including storing said graphic image ~~is stored with correspondence with~~ corresponding to a graphic image describing document as descriptive text for said graphic image ~~and describing~~ which describes ~~sensuous image~~ the impression of said graphic image and a supplementary document including said expression word supplementing said graphic image descriptive document,

~~said method comprises expression word extracting step of~~ extracting said expression word from said graphic image descriptive document and said supplementary document corresponding to said graphic image with reference to said expression word map, and

~~said first position deriving step derives~~ deriving the position of the expression word extracted ~~at said expression word extracting step~~ from said graphic image descriptive document and said supplementary document corresponding to said graphic image with reference to said expression word map.

36. (currently amended) A graphic image map generating method as set forth in claim 35, wherein each of said graphic images is stored ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to an attribute information indicative of said graphic image in addition to said graphic image descriptive object and said supplementary document.

37. (currently amended) A system for generating a graphic image map to be used for a system of retrieving graphic images of ~~sensuous image~~ an impression meeting with ~~sensuous image~~ an impression of a retrieving word among a plurality of graphic images ~~to be graphic images on the basis of a given retrieving word~~ using said graphic image map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of graphic images are arranged on a virtual space depending upon a degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~, comprising:

expression word storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing an expression word map, in which a plurality of expression words expressing ~~sensuous images~~ impressions of graphic images are arranged on ~~a~~ the virtual space depending upon the degree of association of ~~those sensuous images~~ the impressions ~~are arranged~~,

graphic image storage means for ~~storing~~ pre-storing said plurality of graphic images ~~with correspondence~~ corresponding to said expression words,

a first position deriving means for deriving a position of the expression word corresponded to said graphic image or the position of the expression word contained ~~in~~ on each of said graphic image in said virtual space, and

a graphic image map generation means for generating a graphic image map arranging said respective graphic images on said virtual space on the basis of the position derived at said first position deriving ~~step~~ means.

38. (currently amended) A graphic image map generating system as set forth in claim 37, ~~wherein said~~ further including storing said graphic image ~~is stored with correspondence with~~ corresponding to a graphic image describing document as

descriptive text for said graphic image ~~and describing sensuous image~~, which describes the impression of said graphic image, and a supplementary document including said expression word supplementing said graphic image descriptive document,

~~said system comprises expression word extracting step of~~ extracting said expression word from said graphic image descriptive document and said supplementary document corresponding to said graphic image with reference to said expression word map, and

~~said first position deriving step derives~~ deriving the position of the expression word extracted at said expression word extracting step with reference to said expression word map.

39. (currently amended) A graphic image map generating system as set forth in claim 38, wherein each of said graphic images is stored ~~with correspondence with~~ corresponding to an attribute information indicative of said graphic image in addition to said graphic image descriptive object and said supplementary document.